CLAIMS

1.   A system for receiving information and for recording at least a portion of the information, the system comprising:

     a processor for receiving multiple types of information, the processor including an output port for selectively transmitting the information for recording, an input port for receiving user commands, and a presentation port for transmitting the information for presentation to a user;

     a presentation device coupled to the presentation port of the processor for receiving the information and presenting the information to the user;

     a command unit including a transmitter coupled to the input port of the processor for providing recording commands to the processor and input means for receiving the recording commands from the user; and

     a storage device coupled to the output port of the processor for receiving the information to be recorded and for storing the information,

     wherein the recording commands indicate to the processor that at least one selected type of information has been selected for storage by the storage device, and wherein, upon reception of a recording command from the user, the command unit transmits the recording command to the processor, in response to which the at least one selected type of information is provided to the storage device, and wherein other non-selected types of information are not provided to the storage device for recording.

2.   The system of claim 1, wherein the presentation device is a television.

3.   The system of claim 1, wherein the command unit is an infrared remote control, and wherein the infrared remote control provides the recording command as an infrared control signal when associated buttons on the remote control are actuated.

4.   The system of claim 1, wherein the multiple types information is included in a transport stream, the transport stream comprising at least one of:

     audio streams;

     video streams; and

     data streams.

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1   5.   The system of claim 4, wherein the transport stream is an MPEG transport stream.

1   6.   The system of claim 4, wherein the processor and the storage device are included
2   within a set-top receiver, the set-top receiver including:
3   a demodulator for demultiplexing the incoming MPEG transport stream; and
4   a decoder for decoding and providing at least one of the audio streams, video streams,
5   and data streams to the presentation device.

1   7.   The system of claim 6, wherein the transport stream includes packet identifiers
2   identifying the at least one audio streams, video streams, and data streams.

1   8.   The system of claim 7, wherein the processor identifies available packet identifiers
2   that represent available streams within the transport stream associated with an event and
3   provides a menu to the user that is indicative to the available streams, wherein the user can
4   choose at least one of the available streams for recording.
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1   9.   The system of claim 1, wherein the processor and the storage device are packaged as a
2   stand-alone unit.

1   10.   The system of claim 1, wherein the system operates in a broadband communications
2   system.

1   11.   The system of claim 1, wherein the broadband communications system includes:
2   a headend for generating the multiple types of information;
3   a distribution system for delivering the information.

1   12.   The system of claim 11, wherein the distribution system is one of an optical fiber
2   network, a coaxial cable network, a hybrid fiber-coaxial (HFC) network, a satellite system, an
3   off-air VHF/UHF network, and a direct broadcast system.

1   13.   A broadband communications system for transmitting and receiving a transport

2   stream over a distribution system, wherein the transport stream includes video streams, audio

3   streams, and data streams, the broadband communications system comprising:

4   a headend for generating the transport stream from multiple input sources;

5   a distribution system for delivering the transport stream;

6   a receiver for receiving the transport stream, the receiver comprising:

7   a demodulator for demultiplexing the incoming transport stream;

8   a processor coupled to the demodulator for receiving a portion of the transport

9   stream, the processor including an output port for selectively transmitting the portion of the

10   transport stream for recording, an input port for receiving user commands, and a presentation

11   port for transmitting the portion of the information for presentation to a user;

12   a storage device coupled to the output port of the processor for receiving the

13   portion of the transport stream to be recorded and for storing the portion of the transport

14   stream;

15   a decoder coupled to both the demodulator and the processor for decoding at

16   least one of the audio streams, video streams, and data streams;

17   a presentation device coupled to the decoder for receiving the at least one of the

18   streams and presenting the streams to the user; and

19   a command unit including a transmitter coupled to the input port of the processor for

20   providing recording commands to the processor and input means for receiving the recording

21   commands from the user,

22   wherein the recording commands indicate to the processor that at least one of the

23   selected streams has been selected for storage by the storage device, and wherein, upon

24   reception of a recording command from the user, the command unit transmits the recording

25   command to the processor, in response to which the at least one of the selected streams is

26   provided to the storage device, and wherein other non-selected streams are not provided to

27   the storage device for recording.

1   14.   The broadband communications system of claim 13, wherein the transport stream is

2   an MPEG transport stream.

1   15.   The broadband communications system of claim 14, wherein the transport stream

2   includes packet identifiers identifying the at least one audio streams, video streams, and data

3   streams.

1   16.   The broadband communications system of claim 15, wherein the processor identities

2   the available packet identifiers that represent available streams within the transport stream

3   associated with an event and provides a menu to the user that is indicative to the available

4   streams, wherein the user can choose at least one of the available streams for recording.

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1   17.   The broadband communications system of claim 13, wherein the distribution system

2   is one of an optical fiber network, a coaxial cable network, a hybrid fiber-coaxial (HFC)

3   network, a satellite system, an off-air VHF/UHF network, and a direct broadcast system.

1   18.   A broadband communications system for distributing information streams on demand

2   in a playback mode that are related to an event and that comprise at least one of a video

3   stream, an audio stream, and a data stream, and for further distributing identification

4   information that identifies each stream related to the event, the broadband communications

5   system comprising:

6   a transmitter for transmitting the information streams and the identification

7   information;

8   a presentation device for receiving the information streams and the identification

9   information and for presenting the identification information to a user;

10   a distribution system coupling the transmitter to the presentation device;

11   a user input device coupled to the presentation device for receiving a user command

12   indicative of at least one stream that the user desires to have presented,

13   wherein an indication of the at least one stream is provided, via the distribution

14   system, to the transmitter, in response to which the transmitter supplies the at least one

15   stream, and no other unselected streams, to the presentation device.

1   19.   The broadband communications system of claim 18, wherein the presentation device

2   presents the at least one stream to the user.

1   20.   The broadband communications system of claim 18, wherein the at least one stream is

2   provided to a storage device for recording.